

Message Text

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73

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 NEA-10 AGR-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08

L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20

CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01

SPC-03 OMB-01 DRC-01 /200 W
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R 121843Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6395

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS LONDON 14654

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, UK, IN

SUBJECT: UK-INDIA NON-GENERALIZED TARIFF PREFERENCE

REF: STATE 238471

1. PREFERENCES GRANTED BY UK TO INDIA WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED THROUGH CALENDAR YEAR 1973. THAT IS, THEY WILL REMAIN THE SAME AS THEY WERE ON JANUARY 1, 1972. BEGINNING WITH JANUARY 1, 1974 THERE WILL BE AN INITIAL ADJUSTMENT OF 40 PER CENT TO BRING THE TARIFF RATES INTO ALIGNMENT WITH THOSE OF THE EC COMMON EXTERNAL TARIFF (CXT). THERE WILL BE SUCCESSIVE ADJUSTMENTS OF 20 PER CENT ON JANUARY 1, 1975 AND 1976 AND FINALLY ON UNCLASSIFIED

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JULY 1, 1977 WHEN THE TOTAL OF 100 PER CENT IS REACHED.

THUS, INDIA (AS WELL AS SRI LANKA, MALAYSIA, PAKISTAN, BANGLADESH AND SINGAPORE) WILL BE TREATED BASICALLY SAME AS ANY OTHER NON-MEMBER OF EC, SINCE FULL ALIGNMENT OF TARIFFS WITH CXT WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED BY JULY 1, 1977 FROM BASELINE OF JANUARY 1, 1972.

2. ALTHOUGH UK IS PHASING OUT SPECIAL PREFERENCES IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS EC RESPONSIBILITIES, DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (DTI) HAS RECEIVED NO INDICATION THAT INDIA, SRI LANKA, MALAYSIA, PAKISTAN, BANGLADESH OR SINGAPORE INTEND TO WITHDRAW PREFERENCES GRANTED TO UK, ALTHOUGH THEY ARE UNDER NO LEGAL OBLIGATION TO CONTINUE TO GRANT THEM. IN ANY EVENT, DTI DOES NOT REGARD THESE SPECIAL PREFERENCES AS SIGNIFICANT FACTORS IN UK'S TRADE WITH COUNTRIES IN QUESTION.

3. UK'S GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES (GSP) WOULD BE EXTENDED TO COUNTRIES IN QUESTION WHERE APPLICABLE. IN THIS CONNECTION, HMG IS CURRENTLY NEGOTIATING TO BRING ITS GSP INTO LINE WITH THAT OF EC AS OF JANUARY 1, 1974.

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